



Fish and Wildlife Conservation

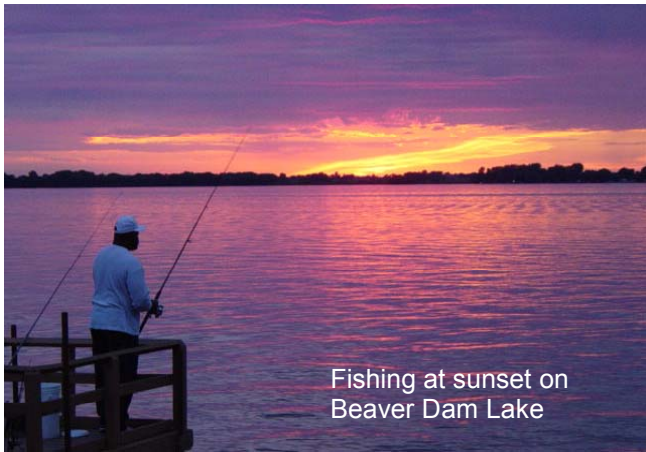
How Fish and Wildlife Dollars Are Used in Your Backyard

Dodge County



County characteristics

- 907 sq. mi., population 85,897 (2000 census)
- Predominantly farmland intermixed with woodland and dotted with prairie pothole wetlands
- Waters: 29 lakes encompassing 13,246 acres
- Horicon Marsh – one of only 15 sites in the United States designated as a “Wetland of International Importance”
- 17,066 licensed anglers and 12,413 hunters and trappers live in Dodge County



Fishing at sunset on
Beaver Dam Lake

State Land Open to Hunting and Fishing

14,537 acres of state owned land including wildlife and fisheries areas and Glacial Habitat Restoration Areas

Our Wildlife and Fisheries lands are operated with license dollars. You can locate DNR properties for all your outdoor activities at:

http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr_land_mapping.html

Fish & Wildlife Staff serving you

2 Wildlife biologists (1 biologist vacancy), 2 Wildlife technicians, 1 Fisheries biologist (1 Fisheries technician vacant), 2 Conservation Wardens, 1 Naturalist, 2.5 Customer Service Representatives (.5 vacant); Service Center: N7725 State Hwy 28, Horicon, WI 53032, Field Office: 1210 North Palmary Street, Horicon, WI 53032

These staff members also serve portions of Jefferson, Fond du Lac and Columbia Counties

Activities Funded by Your Hunting and Fishing Dollars

- Established the Glacial Habitat Restoration Area in 1990. This project seeks to preserve and restore 36,000 acres of prairie and 11,000 acres of wetlands across 24 townships in Dodge, Columbia, Fond du Lac and Winnebago Counties through land acquisition, perpetual easements and partnerships with conservation groups.
- Naturalist staff conducted 194 educational programs for 8,707 people in the past year
- During 2004, wardens spent 2,827 hours on the enforcement of fish and game laws (approximately 10% of those hours were spent enforcing duck and goose regulations)
- Preserve and restore original prairie remnants on public and private lands, and control exotic and invasive species such as wild parsnip, spotted knapweed, thistle, buckthorn and boxelder to assure quality native habitat
- Staff has been conducting a waterfowl study in the area looking at the productivity of blue winged teal and mallards on private lands
- Manage DNR land by posting public hunting and access sites and building and maintaining parking areas and boat launches.

- Respond to wildlife damage and nuisance complaints and monitor wildlife diseases including CWD and West Nile Virus
- Several youth hunting/education programs put on annually to include: Green Wing Day, Youth Pheasant Hunt and Turkey Youth Hunt
- Conduct prescribed fire activities on approximately 1,000 acres annually to maintain cover type
- Evaluate proposed transportation and other development projects for impacts, or damage to wildlife and fish habitat
- Provide educational programs for schools, conservation organizations and civic groups.
- Conduct monitoring of area streams and rivers to evaluate fish, habitat and water quality
- Monitor fish populations, commercial harvest, set and evaluate harvest regulations and stocking quotas

Dodge County Conservation Snapshots

- 7 waterway access sites available for boat launching
- 12 Deer and Turkey registration stations to provide for 4 distinct seasonal registration needs
- 30 license agents supported
- Wardens responded to 68 Hotline Complaints registered by citizens

Fish & Wildlife Stocking Summary

County Lakes and Rivers receive

- 5,766,889 fry and 78,425 small fingerling Northern Pike
- 5,657,000 fry and 102,232 small fingerling Walleye
- 5,205 large fingerling Muskellunge
- 750 yearling brown trout are stocked in Gill and Irish Creeks
- 520 pheasants are stocked on 2 state wildlife areas
- 40 pheasants stocked for Learn to Hunt programs

County Success Stories

- Thousands of acres of habitat have been preserved through the joint efforts of the DNR, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Pheasants Forever, Wisconsin Waterfowl Association, Ducks Unlimited and Wings Over Wisconsin. Our partnerships provide critical habitat for wildlife and recreation land for the public.
- Each year, DNR biologists band approximately 240 Canada geese in Dodge County. Banding provides migration, longevity, and mortality data through direct harvest of the bird once the band is reported.



Wildlife biologists place leg bands on Canada geese that hatch at Horicon

Statewide challenges to maintaining your hunting and fishing opportunities

- Without a fee increase as proposed by Governor Doyle, the Department of Natural Resources will be forced make numerous cuts in:
 - Fish and wildlife stocking programs: Conservation law enforcement; Public hunting acres; Fish and wildlife field biologists and Customer services
- Keeping upland, shoreline and aquatic habitat intact and functional
- Multiple user conflicts - Increasing pressure on public lands
- Rapid growth – urban sprawl
- Nuisance wildlife and invasion by non-native species
- Disease management

Want to Learn More? Go to dnr.wi.gov/invest

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